



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes
Director of Public Works

STATE BUDGET IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

In order to backfill the anticipated loss of State general funds, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Board, at its February 5, 2003, meeting, approved a State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment. This STIP amendment, if approved by the California Transportation Commission, will deobligate \$22.956 million in funding for the South Bay, San Gabriel Valley, and Gateway Cities (Phase 4) Traffic Signal Synchronization Projects. This funding, given to Public Works through the 2001 Call For Projects, was programmed in future years. No work has been started on these future projects. We have agreed to work with MTA staff to identify a source of backfill funding for these projects. In addition, our Hacienda Boulevard project, which we consider as inactive due to the La Habra Heights City Council decision not to proceed, was also deobligated. The MTA will use this freed-up STIP funding, along with the funds deobligated from other projects being administered by Caltrans and the Cities of Los Angeles and Pomona for MTA-administered projects. Specifically, the MTA has chosen to fund bus procurement, the San Fernando Valley East-West Bus Corridor project, and the Eastside Light Rail Transit project.

As the State budget situation changes, the MTA board may opt to deobligate funding from other projects that were approved through the MTA's Call For Projects. Enclosed is a list of Public Works projects that are currently funded through previous Call For Projects. While we are cognizant of the severe impact that State budget cuts will have on transportation programs, we are very concerned that the MTA would pass these cuts through to the County by further deobligation of our projects. If the MTA deobligates funding for a few of our projects, we will be faced with taking short-term measures such as deferring construction contracts. If a significant deobligation occurs, we will need to consider shifting resources within Public Works.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me or your staff may contact Patrick V. DeChellis at (626) 458-3900.

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Attach.

cc: Chief Administrative Office, Executive Office